

## Message Text

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14

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 PCH-08 /039 R

DRAFTED BY NEA TASK FORCE:EPDJEREJIAN

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S/S-0:KKURZE

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O 130513Z NOV 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

COAST GUARD FOR POLAD

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

S E C R E T STATE 223597

EXDIS/TOSEC 443 /TOPOL 15 - ZFF4 PEKING ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION NO. 111

PEKING FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

BRUSSELS FOR ASST SECY SISCO

INFORM CONSULS

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT AND DOHA

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

1. CEASEFIRE: ISRAELI TROOPS DISMANTLED UN ROADBLOCK  
OUTSIDE TOWN OF SUEZ NOVEMBER 12 AFTER CONFRONTATION WITH  
UNEF CONTINGENT WHICH HAD BEEN ORDERED BY UNEF COMMANDER  
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SIILASVUO TO TAKE OVER TWO CHECKPOINTS ON CAIRO-SUEZ ROAD  
IN ACCORD WITH PARA 5 OF NOVEMBER 11 AGREEMENT. UNEF  
ESTABLISHED ITS CHECKPOINTS AT KILOMETER 101 AND KILOMETER  
119 NOVEMBER 12. ISRAELIS THREATENED TO USE FORCE TO

REMOVE LATTER CHECKPOINT AND ASKED FINNISH CONTINGENT TO WITHDRAW. WHEN FINNS STOOD FIRM ISRAELIS MOVED INTO AREA AND OVERTURNED UN FLAG AND TENT AND STARTED LOADING UN EQUIPMENT INTO THEIR TRUCKS. FINNISH CONTINGENT REMAINED ON SITE. UNEF COMMANDER STRONGLY PROTESTED THIS INCIDENT TO ISRAELI GOVERNMENT THROUGH UNTSO JERUSALEM. DISAGREEMENT SEEMS TO CENTER ON TERMS UNDER WHICH ISRAELIS WOULD HAND OVER CHECKPOINTS. IDF SPOKESMAN SAID THAT UNEF

ESTABLISHMENT OF ROADBLOCK ON WESTERN APPROACH TO TOWN OF SUEZ CUTS OFF IDF CHECKPOINT FROM ISRAELI FORCES WEST OF SUEZ. SOME PRESS SOURCES REPORTED THAT EGYPTIANS WERE DEMANDING THAT ISRAEL GIVE UP MILITARY CONTROL OF CAIRO/ SUEZ ROAD, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO MENTION OF QUOTE CONTROL UNQUOTE IN NOVEMBER 11 AGREEMENT AND ISRAELIS WOULD NOT CONCEDE TO THIS DEMAND.

RADIO JERUSALEM REPORTED TWO EGYPTIAN CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS NOVEMBER 12. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, EGYPTIANS BROKE CEASEFIRE BY OPENING LIGHT WEAPONS FIRE EAST OF 60TH KILOMETER ON SUEZ CANAL AND FIRING ON ISRAELI FORCES SOUTHEAST OF LAKE TIMSAH. THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF ANY CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS ON SYRIAN FRONT. AS FOR LEBANON/ISRAELI BORDER, RECENT ISRAELI SHELLINGS OF SHAB'A IN SOUTH LEBANON ESTIMATED BY USDAO BEIRUT TO BE TRIGGERED BY PRESENCE OF RADICAL DIEHARD PALESTINIAN COMMANDOS HOLED UP IN VICINITY WHO OCCASIONALLY HARASS ISRAELI POSITIONS ON MOUNT HERMON.

2. POW'S: EGYPTIAN MILITARY SPOKESMAN, GENERAL MUKHTAR, STATED NOVEMBER 12 THAT EGYPT HAS HANDED OVER TO ICRC LIST OF NAMES OF ISRAELI POW'S. LIST INCLUDES 110 PRISONERS, OF WHICH 45 WOUNDED. MUKHTAR ADDED THAT REMAINING LISTS OF PRISONER NAMES WILL BE GIVEN TO ICRC WITHIN FEW DAYS AND THAT FIRST ISRAELI WOUNDED PRISONER ALREADY HANDED OVER TO ISRAELIS.

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3. UNEF: WITH EXCEPTION OF CHINA WHICH DISASSOCIATED ITSELF FROM DECISION, UNSC ON NOVEMBER 12 CONSENTED TO APPOINTMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL ENSIO SIILASVUO AS COMMANDER OF UNEF AND COLONEL R. W. BUNWORTH AS CHIEF OF UNTSO. ALSO, UNSYG WALDHEIM ANNOUNCED HE HAD ASKED KENYA AND SENEGAL TO PROVIDE CONTINGENTS FOR UNEF. SENEGAL HAS ALREADY SUGGESTED IT WILL PROVIDE A BATTALION, BUT KENYA EARLIER WAS REPORTED TO HAVE DECLINED TO PARTICIPATE IN UNEF. ACCORDING TO WALDHEIM SITUATION ON THE GROUND IS AS FOLLOWS: SWEDES ARE NOW IN POSITION SOUTH OF ISMAILIA; FINNS ARE IN AND AROUND SUEZ CITY; AUSTRIANS WEST OF BITTER LAKES; AND IRISH NEAR RABAH, EAST OF CANAL. ADVANCE CONTINGENTS OF POLES AND CANADIANS ARE ALSO IN

MIDDLE EAST SURVEYING SCENE IN TERMS OF THEIR UNEF SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES.

USUN REPORTS CANADIANS ARE TAKING A VERY STIFF ATTITUDE IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH UN OFFICIALS ON THE DIVISION OF THEIR WORK WITH POLES ON ESTABLISHING CANADIAN/POLISH LOGISTICS UNIT; POLES, ON OTHER HAND, ARE PROVING QUOTE DANGEROUSLY COOPERATIVE UNQUOTE, ACCORDING TO SENIOR UN OFFICIAL, IN THE DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND HAD COMPLAINED FROM CAIRO THAT CANADIANS ARE TRYING TO DO EVERYTHING. DIFFICULTY APPEARS TO BE CANADIAN RESENTMENT AT HAVING TO SHARE THE SUPPORT FUNCTION, THEREBY RENDERING USELESS THEIR CAREFULLY REFINED PLANS FOR DEPLOYING, IN SUPPORT OF UN OPERATIONS, A FULLY INTEGRATED SUPPORT BATTALION CAPABLE, INDEED, OF DOING IT ALL. WE HAVE ALREADY URGED CANADIAN PERMREP TO DO WHAT HE CAN TO HELP GET OVER THIS HURDLE.

STILL ANOTHER SOURCE OF AFRICANS FOR UNEF TURNED UP TODAY IN AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM KINSHASA THAT GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE AGREED TO REQUEST BY UNSYG FOR A BATTALION OF SOME 600 ZAIRIAN TROOPS FOR UNEF. THIS HAS NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED IN NEW YORK.

IN ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT, UNSYG SENT TELEGRAM TO UN DELEGATIONS NOVEMBER 12 APPEALING FOR ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR UNEF SINCE UN DOES NOT HAVE CASH RESOURCES ON HAND TO PAY INITIAL COST.

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4. GUYER TRIP TO ME: UNSYG DECIDED TO SEND ONE OF HIS TOP AIDES TO ME. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL ROBERTO GUYER WILL VISIT CAIRO, JERUSALEM AND DAMASCUS. ALTHOUGH TRIP DESCRIBED BY UN SPOKESMEN AS ROUTINE, PRESS SPECULATES IT IS LINKED TO ISRAELI POW ISSUE AND ISRAELI FORMER ABBA EBAN'S RECENT REMARKS IN NEW YORK WHEN HE CALLED FOR QUOTE MORE VIGOROUS INTERNATIONAL ACTION UNQUOTE BY UNSYG AND OTHERS TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF ISRAELI POW'S IN SYRIA. GUYER TO DEPART NOVEMBER 12 FOR GENEVA TO TALK WITH ICRC REPS AFTER WHICH HE WILL GO TO DAMASCUS TO MEET WITH SYRIAN OFFICIALS.

5. SYRIA: A FRENCH MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT RETURNING TO PARIS FROM DAMASCUS ON NOVEMBER 12 QUOTED SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ AL-ASSAD AS SAYING HIS COUNTRY DID NOT FEEL BOUND BY THE MIDDLE EAST CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT. RAYMOND OFFRY, A GAULLIST DEPUTY, TOLD PRESS

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**To:** ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS  
NOUAKCHOTT  
COAST GUARD FOR POLAD  
SUVA BY POUCH  
BANJUL BY POUCH  
CURACAO BY POUCH  
MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

XMT SUVA  
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